Don’t Forget to Renew Your UIRA Membership

If you haven’t already done so, now is the time to renew your membership(s) in the University of Iowa Retirees Association for the 2011-12 membership year. UIRA memberships run from **July 1 through June 30**. Members who join or renew their membership after May 1 are paid through June 30 of the following year. First-year membership is free for new retirees and their spouses or domestic partners.

A form for renewals and new memberships was included with the May issue of *The Gray Hawk*. Please fill out the form – including your current postal and e-mail addresses – and send it with your check for **$10 per membership** to Ruth Dawson, Assistant to the Treasurer, 2601 Hickory Trail #1, Iowa City, Iowa 52246. (Note correction from address on form.)

A Last-Minute Reminder: Our last 2011 spring event, the **Annual UIRA Potluck Picnic**, will be on **Tuesday, June 7**, in **Shelter 6** in **City Park**. Shelter 6 is the closest shelter to the Shakespeare Theatre. Plan to arrive by **6:00 p.m.**, and bring either a salad or a dessert to serve six persons. The association will provide a choice of either fried or herb roasted chicken, table service, and your choice of coffee, iced tea or ice water.

We will have an opportunity after the picnic to attend a rehearsal of Shakespeare’s “Two Gentlemen of Verona” at the theatre just across the road. Ron Clark from Riverside Theatre will arrive at **6:30** and give us an orientation to the rehearsal. Then, at **7:00** we will walk over to the outdoor theatre to observe some of it. During the rehearsal we will be free to leave as we wish. We are grateful to Riverside’s co-directors, Ron Clark and Jody Hovland, for facilitating this program for us.

The year is coming to a close, but a new Program Committee is looking forward to our 2011-12 year under the direction of Nancy Williams, President Elect. We want everyone to feel welcome at meetings, and we especially want new people to feel comfortable coming into our group. The Board has formally established a Hospitality Committee led by the past president. If you are willing to help, please send an e-mail to Jean Hood at **ajhood@q.com**.

It would be helpful if we could formally assign two volunteers for each program to welcome people, make sure everyone has a name tag, and help people feel at home. Also, the whole committee could be watchful for those who seem in need of a welcome to the group. If you can help, please include your e-mail address so we can be in easy communication with each other. Thanks. – Jean Hood, President 2010-11
Dear UIRA members . . .

This will be the last newsletter for the 2010-11 year. I am sure you join me in thanking Dwight Jensen, editor, for his excellent work in producing a timely, interesting monthly report so we can be up-to-date on association news. Two other board members will leave us – Jane Jakobsen and Jon Cryer, directors-at-large. They have been diligent and hard-working board members. Penny Hall, past president, has been an invaluable help in giving us all a sense of history and has kept us on target. We thank them all for their years of service and expect to see them at monthly program meetings in the future.

As I look back at our accomplishments, I am proud of the work of a special committee chaired by Feather Lacy. Gene Spaziani, Jon Cryer, Marion Johnson, Joe Joynt, Dwight Jensen and I joined her in examining membership issues. We found that our membership chair was really serving as an assistant treasurer, collecting dues and sending out reminder notices. We recommended and the Board approved naming this position assistant treasurer, and we created a new membership position with the task of producing a spread sheet of members with name, address, phone number, e-mail address, and current dues information plus how you preferred to receive your newsletter. Now we have a single master list of those receiving the newsletter by e-mail or direct mail, and we can use that information to send updates to the listserv. All of this will mean better communication. The Board is in the process of considering how we might produce a membership directory that will help all of you stay in touch with each other. Be assured that you will have a chance to opt out if you do not want your name included. Please thank Gene Spaziani when you see him for his many hours of work in producing our new membership list. Ruth Dawson keeps our dues list current.

A new operations manual is in process for board members. This will contain job descriptions for all positions, bylaws, history, etc., of the organization. It will be ready for fall distribution to the Board.

Have you looked at the new website page? Feather Lacy shares news in a very prompt way so you can easily look up information. You’ll find a list of officers, bylaws, newsletters, and other information. I especially like the list of past presidents – so many are still active in our association. We have a strong link with the Emeritus Faculty Council and jointly give our support to the Senior College. Together we stay alert to health issues and insurance coverage. We have a representative who attends FRIC meetings and keeps us updated.

The Program Committee led by President Elect Ken Kuntz has provided us with a varied number of activities this year. Surely you were able to find one or two that interested you. The best attended was the tour of the new Recreation Building. A newly formed committee, the Hospitality Committee, welcomed members at meetings, aided in providing name tags and, if people were new, helped them feel a part of the group. The bylaws have been changed so that Hospitality is now a standing committee.

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your president. I’ve enjoyed meeting so many of you and will continue to serve one more year as past president. Ken Kuntz will keep us challenged in his year as president. I look forward to working with him.

Jean Hood
UIRA President
2010-11
UIRA Welcomes New Members

Please welcome the following new UIRA members:

Cynthia (Cindy) Asmussen College of Dentistry
Marian Clark Academic Advising Center
Steve Collins Electrical & Computer Engineering
Lea Collins Spouse
Michael Feiss Microbiology
Cathy Cob Spouse
Murray D. Madsen Occupational & Environmental Health
Kathleen Madsen Spouse
Diane Martin College of Dentistry
Lisa Skemp College of Nursing
Ron Vogel Engineering & Physics

UIRA Board Approves Revisions In Bylaws

The UIRA Board of Directors recently adopted several revisions in the organization’s bylaws. They include:

• A change in the tenure of the editor of The Gray Hawk newsletter from undetermined to three years;
• A change in the tenure of the board secretary from one to three years; and
• The establishment of a Hospitality Committee as a standing UIRA committee.

A copy of the bylaws as revised is available on the UIRA web site, www.uiowa.edu/~uira.

Deadline for September Gray Hawk Copy

The next issue of The Gray Hawk will be published in September. The deadline for submitting items for the September issue is Friday, August 19. Please send them to Dwight Jensen by regular mail at 13 Lakeview Drive NE, Iowa City, IA 52240, or via e-mail at dpjensen@mchsi.com.
Did you know that the University maintains a web page called “The University of Iowa Employee Discount Program,” which lists vendors that offer discounts to University faculty and staff. Many of these discounts are also available to UI retirees.

In addition, you can continue to keep current on what's happening at the University by self-subscribing to the FYI-News and the UI News Digest.

For more detailed information, select the **Perks & Discounts for Retirees** page and scroll down to “ITS Services for University of Iowa Retirees”.